

Salient

An Organ of Student Opinion at Victoria University, Wellington.

Vol. 24, No. 1.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1961

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SAPIENTIA MAGIS



AURO DESIDERANDA

Latest Developments in the Student Union Building Mystery

At the moment of writing, it appears to be quite definite that the Student Union Building will be **FULLY** operational after Easter this year, and my name is not Ripley! The official opening is to be held in the second week of the May vacation. This will in no way prevent us from using the buildings as soon as they are ready, and as each section of the project is completed it will be ready for immediate use. There are three sections, the gymnasium, the Little Theatre, and the rest of the Student Union Building (which may be ready before Easter). No portions of these sections can be made available any earlier, as there could be difficulties in the event of anything being damaged before the contractors had officially handed over the complete section. This is likely to cause some inconvenience in the first few weeks of term.

Until we are able to use the new building, we will have virtually no student facilities at all with the exception of the Old Little Theatre. Our most urgent and immediate need will be some form of cafeteria facilities. There are numerous other difficulties apart from this which will cause some inconvenience to both individual students and clubs. I would appeal to students to be tolerant over any such matters, as these will only be the birth pangs of the best facilities we have ever known.

A CAFETERIA?

At the end of the 1960 academic year, when it appeared definite that the new cafeteria would be ready for this term, the association handed over the old cafeteria and common common room to the University for urgently needed library space. When this completion date first appeared to be doubtful, an interim cafeteria committee was set up. This committee has very thoroughly investigated the possible interim catering arrangements which can be made. Although final details are not available as this article goes to press, full publicity will be given during enrolment and orientation weeks.

Finally, I would ask all students to remember our obligation and gratitude to so many past students who made the Union Project pos-

sible. These contributions, both administrative and financial are still being made at present towards the furnishings appeal. Let us not forget our responsibilities.



ARMOUR MITCHELL

There will be room for full enjoyment of our new facilities, without carrying with us the sometimes careless attitude derived from our recent (and not so recent) make-shift surroundings. We will be turning a page in Victoria's History—let us be able to say that we did not smudge it.

ARMOUR MITCHELL,
Acting President.

CONGO ASSISTANCE

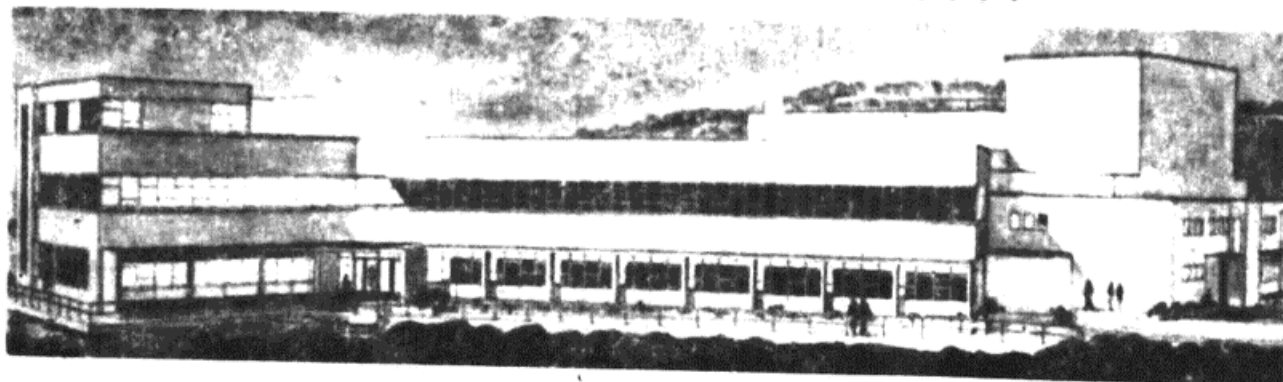
The executive of CORSO has given consideration to the urgent need of assistance in the Congo, and, although the New Zealand Government has not been asked for aid, a number of groups and individuals have contributed, and indicated a willingness to assist through CORSO.

CORSO has, therefore, agreed to forward an amount from its Emergency Fund to the Famine Relief Trust operating in the Congo in conjunction with F.A.O. in the Congo; also to accept donations which are coming to hand, and forward them to the Famine Relief Trust.

Notice to Contributors

★
Copy for the second issue of "SALIENT" must be in by
March 1, 1961.
—Editor.

WHEN WILL IT BE READY???



Salient

Vol. 24, No. 1. Monday, February 20, 1961. Sub. 5/-; Price 6d.

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"YOU and SALIENT"

In the final issue last year, readers mourned the shocking absence of student opinion in Victoria University. The complaint was that SALIENT is no longer what it is purported to be—"an organ of student opinion in Victoria University." Nineteen-sixty was not the only year when SALIENT experienced criticism, however. Earlier SALIENTS have been subjected to attack also—sometimes in rather vile terms. And SALIENT 1961 will probably be no exception.

But it must be realised that criticism is always appreciated. For the student body of Victoria must understand this: SALIENT is your newspaper. You, and you alone, can make it, or destroy it. "Student opinion" refers to your opinion, and not that of someone else. This includes the opinion of freshers. First-year students must, from the very beginning, learn to cultivate the desire for self-expression in writing. Do not wait until you are a second, or third year student. Refrain from following the footsteps of some of your inglorious predecessors—pathetic beings too timid to reveal their thoughts. (Perhaps these characters had no brains to think with.) As for the older students, those who have in the past allowed their brains to become inactive, wake up! Let us cry, "Awake! Awake!" Tell us those bad, bad thoughts. Announce to the world your opinions of executive, sex, religion, sin, science, alcohol, anything!

Readers! We must all learn to live, and not remain insensitive to stimulation. We must learn to meditate, to perceive the world around us. Furthermore, we must remove that inhibition, that ghastly fear of being ridiculed for being different from our fellow beings. If we endeavour to do all these things, we will have a better SALIENT.

B.T.M.

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WELCOME TO NEW STUDENTS

In the absence of John Hercus, the President of V.U.W.S.A., it is my pleasant duty to welcome new students to Victoria on behalf of the Students' Association. The duty is certainly a pleasant one, for we have for the first time in the history of Victoria student facilities unrivalled in New Zealand, and these will be a far more tangible form of welcome than any words written here. With the best multi-purpose gymnasium in Wellington, a Student Union Building incorporating committee rooms, common rooms, Students' Association offices, a large modern cafeteria, and the best Little Theatre in New Zealand, if not Australasia, there is no need for me to describe these facilities in detail, as you will all be using them in a very few weeks when, I am sure, their qualities will be obvious.

I hope that by the time you are reading this, you will have overcome the difficulties of finding suitable accommodation, and that you will have earned enough money to keep you at University, or if you are part-time, you will have a satisfactory job. For those of you having trouble in these directions, I would like to remind you of the help and information available at the Students' Association office on these, and indeed any other problems which can arise while you are settling in.

During the first week of lectures, the Students' Association runs its Orientation Week functions. These include tours of the University, an official welcome and Students' Association evening, lectures on methods of study, the use of the library, university administration, a church service, freshers' social and, of course, the freshers' ball. Naturally, the success of Orientation Week depends on a full attendance of new students at all these functions, and I strongly recommend them all to you.

One small request. You will all become members of the Students' Association when you enrol. The Association is run by students. Unless you, as students, give some active support to its activities and clubs, you cannot in fairness expect to derive any benefit from the Association's functioning. While no student must forget that his or her purpose at university is to obtain a degree, a certain amount of time away from study is equally essential. Finally, may I wish you all a most enjoyable and successful year.

ARMOUR MITCHELL,
 Acting-President.

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HIGH INTELLECTUAL TIDE AT CURIOUS COVE

The talks and discussions at the 13th NZUSA Congress held in the last week of January at Curious Cove, Picton, were of an exceptionally high standard. The participation by the students, as worked out by our statistics expert from Auckland University, was much better than usual. This is a tribute to the speakers, who ably provided food for thought and discussion. The Congress audience was described by one speaker, Mr Toby Hill, as a dangerous one, because the students were relaxed (i.e., prostrate on the floor) and had none of the usual everyday ties to distract them. They therefore concentrated on the speaker with a "what is wrong with his reasoning" attitude. It reminded one of a Victoria Debating Club audience — although interjections weren't allowed and more constructive lines were followed.

Professor Scott, of the Political Science Department at Victoria, was a popular chairman and ably directed the discussions. He tried to avoid allowing any particular point becoming belaboured and gave as many people as possible the opportunity to express their views. On both counts he was successful.

The following afternoon the Congress Olympics were held. These consist of the sports, table tennis, volley ball, archery, tenniquits and tug of peace.

Auckland University again took the honours and beat Victoria and the consolidated South Island teams.

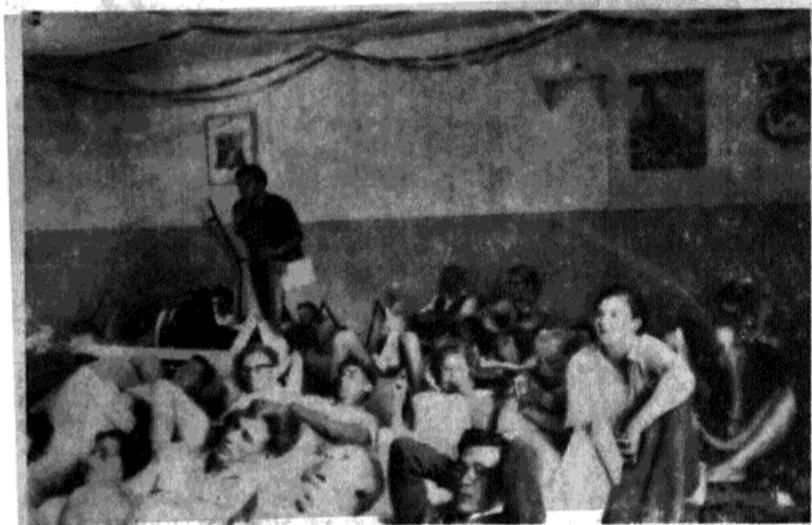
At the forum the following day

Forum have already been given considerable publicity, both by the

Press and by the N.Z.B.S.

Professor Scott commented on the Forum at its conclusion by saying that he was proud to be associated with such a body. The motions which were passed were realistic and constructive and I am sure the publicity they have received has added considerably to the down-town prestige of the students' viewpoint.

CECILIA FROST,
Congress Controller.



A scene from Curious Cove.

There was a better-than-usual sized contingent from Victoria—probably due to the fact that we were running it.

Reports on the speakers' talks are published in "Student Summer," which is now available with this issue of "Salient." Perhaps one of the most gratifying things about Congress is that the speakers (or most of them) are resident at the Cove and can mix freely with the students and are willing to discuss any topic with them. When you consider most students, at least up to Stage 3 level, never get to know their lecturers and tutors, Congress illustrates that the ideal teacher-pupil relationship when it exists is a very worthwhile and profitable thing.

The weather during Congress ranged from gale-force winds and minor cloudbursts to mild summer sunshine, but this had no real effect on the proceedings, as the only two days when good weather was important, i.e., a cruise day and the Olympics day, were fine.

The cruise was by launch up the Sounds to a place called Ship's Cove, where rests a lump of concrete dedicated to an appearance there by Captain Cook. Apart from the lump of concrete there is some beautiful native bush at Ship's Cove, and a very pleasant afternoon was spent there.

the motion was carried "that the Congress Olympics be abolished."

Father Simmons, the Catholic chaplain, again organised the Professorial Board and Pinks Committee of Curious Cove University. Curious Cove Pinks are awarded for extraordinary feats and behaviour and were presented with great pomp and solemnity. It seemed to me that nearly all the degrees as conferred by the University of Curious Cove were accompanied by a research grant for study of some aspect of a particular biological function.

But perhaps Congress is best remembered by the students for the parties. These ranged from the small, select, well supplied type to the 60-jammed-in-a-two-man-hut type-where-ballads-were-sung. One thing which nobody had much of was sleep, as the jam-packed programme disallowed that, well before the parties prohibited it.

Two films which were shown at Congress were "Twelve Angry Men" and "Vanishing Prairie," and both proved popular.

A daily newspaper was produced called "The Maniac Depressive," after the proprietors of Curious Cove, Mr and Mrs Manning. Excerpts from this great spasmodical are inset.

Motions passed by this year's

LITTLE CONGRESS

"Big" Congress was great. It seems almost sacrilege to turn round and have another. However, for those who could not go, and for those who were not even university students at the time, there is going to be a "Little Congress."

The purpose of the University Congress is to provide primarily "an intellectual meet attended by students and staff," to quote NZ USA Congress information sheet. Here the student who is "concerned for a fuller understanding of the present-day situation with its problems and possibilities" can gain much from what Professor Scott at the last Congress called "inter-disciplinary cross-fertilization." Members of different "disciplines" gain an insight into the way others approach a problem. The "Little Congress" committee is hoping also that first-year students may be introduced to the "intellectual" or "cultural" side of student life at the "Little Congress." For this reason it is to be included as part of orientation activities.

All has now been arranged and it remains only for students to fill in application forms. The programme as planned should run something as follows:—

FRIDAY, MARCH 17.

7.30 p.m.—Trucks leave railway station for Otaki City Mission Camp.

9.30 p.m.—Coffee (3d a cup) and talk on "University Problems" and "The Parry Report" by Professor Holmes.

SATURDAY.

Morning—Talk by Professor Buchanan on World Problems.

Evening—Talk by Conrad Bollinger; subject, generally religious.

SUNDAY.

Talk by Dr Elder on "Science, Art and Passion."

Messrs Holmes, Buchanan and Elder are on the teaching staff in the departments of economics, geography and physics respectively. Conrad Bollinger is a graduate of the law faculty who has gained fame through publication of his book "Grog's Own Country."

ALL staff members have been invited and it is hoped that many will attend in the same capacity as students. The value of such participation was well demonstrated at "Big Congress" when staff members were scarcely discernable from students.

Because activities will be primarily aimed at showing first-year students how we tick they must not stay away because they feel that they "will be out of their depth." We can promise a memorable week-end with staff and the more senior students acting as comprehensible and reasonable human beings.

Application forms may be obtained from the Students' Association office or the executive notice board beside the main stairs in the Arts building.



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THE NATURE OF THE BEAST

By THOMAS ANDERSON

By this time I had intended for some months to buy a beast. I had not yet got round to it, however, for several reasons. I was handicapped, in the first place, by a complete ignorance concerning the whole race of beasts—I knew that they existed in varying forms (though I could not have said what the forms were) and the thought of actually getting up the necessary knowledge to choose one so as to look like a connoisseur intimidated me. You see, I only wanted a beast for company, really, and it does seem a little cold to choose one's company after reading up on its pros and cons. It looks a little snobbish. At least I think so.

My second reason for delaying was not so noble: I was seized with such a fit of torpor as marks my most active moods. The sensation of being able only to sit and twitch is not comfortable. And so I let the whole exhausting affair of beasts and beast-buying slide.

I need not have troubled myself so much, however, for when the month of April arrived, and my birthday, my aunt Iris Norp arrived, too, carrying a little wicker basket over her arm. Perhaps you know of Aunt Iris—she wrote *BEASTS I HAVE KNOWN*, and dedicated it to her cousin Ernest. She certainly can be nasty. But she was nice this day; she had brought me a beast.

Although I had considered it long, and had (or so I had every reason to expect) conditioned myself to the idea, the actual presence of the creature unnerved me hopelessly. I was reduced to the consistency of gelatin even before the basket had been opened, for I had never seen a beast. The consummation of my hopes and fears was at hand. But if the thing were fierce? Or if it spoke another language? (I had not until that moment considered whether beasts spoke at all, but the question impressed itself horribly upon me when the necessity of greeting and being polite to this one was at hand.)

Aunt Iris, grinning, opened the basket and brought forth a small brown, white and black bundle and held it out to me. Do I only imagine that I heard a voice from countless miles away saying "isn't he sweet"? Perhaps. My recollection of this moment will be forever confused. My hand groped for support. A chorus of mosquitoes buzzed within my head. All was in flux.

Presently I was brought to. The room had nicely settled down, and the arm-chair within whose arms I lay was gentle. My new-gained composure was somewhat ruffled by my remembrance of the beast; but I remained calm enough to weather the storm.

You will understand, dear reader, the cause of my faint-heartedness when I describe the creature fully. It was of a wild cylindrical shape, supported in four places with hinged and mobile posts. Forward, a protuberance terminating in a button snout-like contrivance and from just above the deceptively sad eyes (these fixed in the protuberance) depended silken brown flaps. And from the nether end of the beast, a highly active appendage, capable of jutting out into the air with horrible convulsions, or of hanging limply down. Mercifully, this end of the beast became more docile as time passed, flailing neither so often or so terrifyingly.

I plucked up courage, and decided that, although I was a rustic, and thus ignorant of creatures, nonetheless I owed the thing a citizen's welcome, whatever its form. I laugh bitterly now, when I think that I timidly and gently spoke to it, offering it rich hospi-

ality. I fetched good sherry and poured it out a glass. Aunt Iris, who had stood silent and bewildered (as I see now) during my reflections, smiled tenderly, and muttering indistinctly about wit ambled swiftly to the door and withdrew.

I was at a loss. I knew that taking a beast was like taking a bride—both must be supported and lived with until death came to one or other. But how precisely did one best support a beast? What comforts are peculiar to beasts? I did not know. Nor did the beast help me. No. It sat, or stood in its fashion, and watched me. How, with mere good intentions can one be kind and civil to alien things? Since that time it has been said that I was cruel. Never, I beseech you to believe me, never did I deliberately do a thing against my conscience.

I brought the beast to my very table, and gave it food from my own dish. I treated it well, I thought. I continued to talk to it, though it never once dignified me with an answer. It looked mournfully at me. I offered to take it to concerts (gentlemen in cities did this, I understood), to play chess with it. No response but a reproachful look. I began soon to doubt my own goodness, to think that I tormented the poor creature. But pause, I told myself, pause and consider the lengths to which you have gone to please the thing. It is ungrateful. Yet when at my mind's instance I looked at the sad brown eyes that stared fixedly into my face, I was disarmed. No, I thought, the fault is mine. Perhaps my kindness arises from selfish motives; perhaps I am trying to impress the tender beast with my generosity and the breadth of my culture—for undoubtedly the beast is sensitive to such crudities, and will not speak to me until I mend my ways.

Imagine, then, with what diligence I examined my conscience. My every action and thought I scrutinized mercilessly. But no ignoble motive could I find!

Suspicion is a distressing thing. It poisons one's hours and days; it leaves the taste of ashes upon the palate; it breeds frustration and restlessness. I began to feel the terrible grip of suspicion. You can surely see why.

You must not think, however, that my suspicion was constant. For whole moments it left me—rays of hope pierced the gloom of my soul. At times the beast seemed companionable, and its terrible aspect was softened by the glow of familiarity and love. Sometimes a flicker of a smile played about its beastly lips. (Shall I forget my doubts? Was the smile sardonic?) Upon two occasions I fell asleep in my chair and dropped the newspaper I had been reading, to be awakened by the beast, now in my lap, the paper between his jaws. Oh I blessed heaven for this sign of soft goodness in the heart of the beast—for if he was too forward, nevertheless, his was an error of af-



fection, well-meaning.

Yet these intervals were short-lived and infrequent. My hope blossomed into the flower of despair, for the beast always returned to its former ways. Long would it sit, looking up sadly and tormentingly into my eyes, watching me, watching for some sign of my breaking, waiting for the destruction that would inevitably be visited upon me. Oh sympathetic reader, you do see? Slowly, deliberately the beast was ruining me. And its means were subtle and sure—destroy me from within was what it would do! With malice of devilish refinement it sought to increase in me my sense of guilt and remissness towards it, so that I should crack beneath the sense of my sin.

And the beast very nearly succeeded. For almost three weeks I went about attempting to avoid those soft deceptive eyes. Tantalized by the sense of my hidden wickedness, I sought recognition of it or escape from it. But I was not to be completely taken in by the beast. Slowly the knowledge that I have communicated above revealed itself, and the combined oppression of guilt (for one's self-doubt never really disappears in the face of reason) and horror of the Evil One brought enormous pressure to bear upon my sensitive and enervated being. In the confusion of despair my resolve was taken.

"Beast," I cried, "beast, not forever will you thus ruthlessly persecute me!"

The rest is blackness. One thing is clear: I had slain the beast.

The rope is prepared with which I shall hang myself. My confession comes (not that I can hope that you of the city at large will forgive me) in the bitter resolve of making myself understood. I know now, of course, the nature of my crime. What I ask is that you consider my situation: I was, as I have told you, born *and* brought up in the country, totally unfamiliar with city ways until my twentieth year. And though I worked diligently to make up my loss—to acquire the civilized manners of sophisticated people, (indeed, I lived in deadly fear that my rustic origins would show, and that I would be condemned on their account), there are certain characteristics and areas of knowledge that no late education can hope to convey. There are some differences that distinguish from birth the city-dweller and the rustic. My Aunt Iris brought the thing. She had lived in the city from birth. I knew that having beasts of one sort or another was essential to the finished person. Yet how could I know what beasts were, as city people instinctively do, coming as I did out of the remote countryside? My crime arose out of a dreadful, fated misunderstanding. Forces larger than myself held me irremediably in their grip. Hellish ignorance! And how could I face the city now? I could not—never—my humiliation was complete. The city could never forgive such a travesty of their ancient and laudable customs as mine. My hope lies in death by the rope, my sole refuge in dark death.

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ESPECIALLY FOR FRESHERS: ORIENTATION ACTIVITIES

Once again the Students' Association welcomes freshers to the University and has planned Orientation activities to entertain them and to inform them of some of the peculiarities and customs of student life. It is a pity that the Student Union Building will probably not be completed in time for these functions. However, this year's freshers are very fortunate because they will have the use of the Building for almost the whole of their University career. The Building will definitely be functioning after Easter. In the meantime, the Little Theatre will be used.

The first function of orientation week is the freshers' social, which will be on Saturday, February 25, in the Little Theatre, at 8.30 p.m. For freshers only, admission by ticket. Armour Mitchell is going to be in charge of proceedings.

On Sunday, February 26, at 2 p.m. there will be conducted tours of the University by members of the various faculty clubs, followed by afternoon tea in the Little Theatre. Freshers assemble outside the steps of the main entrance of the old Arts block.

On Monday evening there is going to be a Students' Association evening in the main lecture hall of the Easterfield building. This is a new innovation and is an attempt on the part of the executive to show the students exactly what the executive does around the place, their aims re student affairs and the ways in which the Student Union building will improve and consolidate student life at Victoria. Also the operations and purposes of the New Zealand University Students' Association, will be described. The initial address will be a welcome by the Vice-Chancellor, Dr. J. Williams. Supper will follow in the Little Theatre. The executive would like to see some club officers and team leaders at this supper, to mix with the freshers and tell them about their club's activities.

On Tuesday, February 28 in the main lecture hall again, there will be talks given by Professor Somerset, Mr. L. O. Desborough, and Mr. Briggs, deputy librarian. Professor Somerset will give advice on Methods of Study. This is his last year at Victoria before he retires and consequently the last time he will be able to give this talk. The executive feels that generally students do not know very much about the internal workings of the University and Mr. Desborough, the registrar has kindly consented to talk on the administration and financial set-up of the University. Mr. Briggs, deputy Librarian, will give a talk on how to use the University Library.

Faculty evenings will be held sometime during the first two weeks and times and dates will be announced at lectures.

On Friday, March 10, the biggest and best orientation ball ever held will take place in the Town Hall. Tickets will be sold from the executive office from February 20 until March 10 or while stocks of tickets last. During enrolment week tickets will also be available in the association enrolment room. Prices are £1 double, 12/6 single. BE IN EARLY!

The band which is going to play for the freshers' social and orientation ball is called "The Students," and normally performs at the Newbacca in Cambridge Terrace. They are a great Sextet and will contribute handsomely to the success of these two functions.

But to make this a really memorable orientation we need the support of you the freshers and old-hands-students, so come along

and enjoy yourselves.

It is whispered that in addition to the usual Weir House performance another event is being devised—by fair and underhand means. Watch for it or perhaps Watch out for it!



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Suggestions for additions to this page are welcome. If there is any need of yours not covered on this page, or any good firm not recommended, please drop a line to the Advertising Manager, "Salient", Students' Ass. Office.

SERVICE PAGE

This year SALIENT again introduces a Service Page for students. We have, we hope, provided a full list of the goods and services you will be needing this year. Freshers especially should find it useful. By shopping with the downtown firms which advertise on this page you will be returning some of the goodwill they have shown to students.

By using this page you will have a better chance in the long run of getting value for what you spend.

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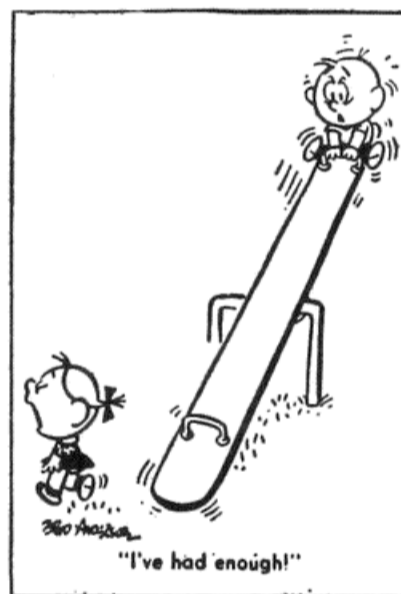
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GETTING ABOUT

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FINE ARTS SECTION

FILMS

A society long overdue in the University has finally been incepted under the name of the Victoria University Film Society. If last year's programme is any criterion, we may in future expect a high standard of current, foreign and historic material to be available. Less than a year old, the society received immediate aid from the University staff, film distributors,

esse, creation and action inherent in the latter. There is neither drive nor imagination in these British films: this is not to say they are received harshly everywhere—the Americans especially lapse into plaudits over them. Scoundrels is generally typical of this messy mass, with one or two good credits, however. The story is an adaptation from Stephen Potter's books on oneupmanship, scripted by—

This year, in SALIENT, we are devoting a section to the activities and events of what we may call Fine Arts: that is to say, a section concerned with many facets of the arts of human imagination and culture. We are thus, here, going to concern ourselves initially with activities relating most closely to students—movies, music, drama, concerts, books and so so.

Indeed, most of this space will regularly be taken up with reviews of films, concerts, plays, and articles on not so irrelevant subjects as gramophone discs, short stories, etc. A design of any abstruse quality is certainly not intended: our primary purpose is to give indication to the student of what is happening in the city in the arts.

Naturally, our scope in covering "the many facets" is limited to the number of writers we have on hand: one cannot possibly expect two or three writers to be authorities on everything, or even to have the time to write everything. If there is any student willing to help in organising a column as this, he or she will be more than welcome.

Perhaps many students—in all probability many freshers—do not realise that SALIENT is not a closed book: it is open to all. Students with enough initiative to help in their own magazine will, of course, only be directly helping themselves.

and the enthusiastic support of students. In wishing its committee success, we hope it enjoys another outstanding year of membership.

Mention must be made of the Wellington Film Society; responsible for screening many excellent movies who, last year, included such famous films as Die Dreigroschenoper, The Wolves' Trap, Stormy Weather and The Grasshopper, in its programme. All students are welcome to this society, and inquiries concerning membership may be made direct through the Fine Arts Editor.

In using this first issue of SALIENT to more or less outline the year's topical events, we may confidently add the series of illustrated talks given by Catherine de la Roche, noted film authority, as one of the highlights. There has been some talk of Miss de la Roche giving this year's lectures at the University: whether this is so or not, persons interested in the cinema will find great enjoyment in these informative and witty discussions.

Of special interest to the cinema-goer in Wellington has been the recent reopening of the Paramount Internationale. With the object of running as an art theatre, the Paramount, we hope, will continue to be a source of good foreign movies. Screenings so far have included Kurt Hoffman's play on life in the Third Reich—Wir Wunderkinder; and one of the finest Shakespeare films—Julius Caesar. Scheduled for release later this year is Alan Resnais's brilliant Hiroshima mon Amour.

Films being commercially screened in Wellington at present include a British comedy, School For Scoundrels; an epic Western, The Unforgiven; and an even greater epic colossus—Solomon and Sheba.

The first-named movie may be said to be indicative of a current trend running through the British cinema industry. The comedies at present emanating from this country are being produced on a scale equal to that when Mack Sennet and Hal Roach held the reigns on "funnies" 35 years ago. Unfortunately, the former lack all the fin-

amongst others—Peter Ustinov: the film does not lack a basic plot, nor does the direction (by Robert



Selling well to the Americans: a scene from the British comedy, "School for Scoundrels," starring Terry Thomas, Ian Carmichael and Janette Scott.

Hamer, responsible for Kind Hearts and Coronets) allow absurdity to overrule a sense of feeling and cool, pervasive humour.

John Huston's The Unforgiven is much more of a film in many more ways. In posing its problems and in failing to solve them we are up against once more a trend noticeable in not only this film but in a whole gamut of American movies: the problem namely being that of ethnic prejudice. Huston has, however, incorporated some fine points into his film, which, by the way, is set in the Texas Panhandle shortly after the Civil War. His masterful photography (in the capable hands

of Franz Planer) is as always his highlight: the composition is generally excellent, and the cast, headed by Burt Lancaster and Audrey Hepburn, also generally capable.

Solomon and Sheba, filmed in Super-70 Technirama, is another trying biblical spectacle, this one from the hand of King Vidor, who has, when "freedom of expression" was a little more liberal than it is today, made many memorable films—The Crowd (1928) and Hallelujah! (1929). Starring Yul Brynner and Gina Lollobrigida, the movie is essentially a dull tirade, a masterpiece of mediocrity, and, in other words, a liable, box-office draw.



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MOANS FROM MOENS

Ever since this colourful athlete landed in New Zealand, papers have been publicising his criticisms of some quaint Kiwi customs. He was first reported as saying he was upset by the food, which was too heavy and greasy. That he found New Zealand food, as presented in hotels, unsuited to his tastes is not surprising, considering his professed liking of "fresh fruit and vegetables." However, this claim of unsuited food was taken in some quarters to be the excuse of a beaten athlete. Nothing can really be stated for or against the case, as Mr Moens has left us, and any recriminations will be bandied about among the hotels, but let us not be too harsh on him as the quality of the food an athlete gets when he is competing is of paramount importance, and undoubtedly Mr Moens was not eating food he was used to.

However, this is merely a minor point which pales in comparison with his next attack. He criticised Snell. Or more correctly, he criticised Snell's training methods. Now Snell, as one of New Zealand's track immortals (no one will deny him that), is beyond criticism and Moens had committed blasphemy in saying that to train with miles of hard roadwork was absolutely crazy by Continental standards. He maintains that short, forceful periods of training are sufficient.

Now the immediate reaction was that Snell is the reigning Olympic champion, hence his training methods are sacrosanct, and anyway if Moens and his Continental cobbles took a leaf out of Snell's notebook, they might do better. Refer to Sports Post of February 11, 1961, for elaboration.

CONSIDER THE FACTS

Consider the facts. Firstly Snell is built much more heavily than Moens, and as it is an accepted fact that a heavier athlete needs more training than another who is lighter, then perhaps both men are right in their training methods, and Moens was wrong to criticise Snell.

Should Snell develop into a class miler, he will undoubtedly be one of the most powerfully built in the history of the race, and applying the principle mentioned previously he will have to train relatively hard than Lovelock did in his time, not only because of the faster times, although Snell has not yet beaten Lovelock's best.

Secondly, Moens is the world record holder, and has been since 1955. Now in this day and age, a world record that is 6 years old is a rarity indeed and should not be brushed off lightly. Besides this however, he is now 30, and for a man to foot it with International 800m. men for as long as he has is nothing short of marvellous. He was a not-so-far-away second to Snell in the Rome Olympics, remember. And all this with his training methods almost diametrically opposed to Snell's.

So what does it show. Merely the old meat and poison theory in a not so new guise. Besides which Snell's methods are by no means unknown in Europe. Remember the legendary Emil Zatopek and his training feats.

—B.D.

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For Easter Tournament?

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So you're a fresher. And you dabbled in athletics or basketball at school. Well, what are you going to do about it? Throw it all in and pitch into work as hard as you can go? Admirable, but you may end up like some of the physical cretins that infest the place to their everlasting shame. And that, children, would be a horrible fate.

No, set your feet firmly on the ground, doff your hat politely to your Alma Mater and select a sports club you are interested in. Then find the secretary or president, or someone, and with dignified and quiet composure forthwith declare your interest. [Note: Club secretaries and presidents have no divine powers, i.e. do not expect to be immolated by Jovian Thunderbolt or the like; club officials are generally quite human.]

If your message gets across you will find you have taken the first and crucial step in a major adventure. Make no mistake about it: The people you meet, from your own and other faculties, the things you do (an extremely absorbing category, this) and, above all, the exercise you get, are all important in the production of that hypothetical creature of the educationalist, the well-balanced man.

Your primary reason, remember,



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is not all-important. To obtain the full benefit from your stay here, you must meet and talk with people, generally your fellow students, but your professors and lecturers are by no means un-

HEY, KLUBS!

Please note — Memo for sport club secretaries and presidents: Your club will obtain more coverage in Salient if, and only if, you contribute material to its pages. Please contact me as soon as possible in the academic year and arrange methods of communication. This is your chance to burst into print, and out-Jenkins Jenkins.

Contact me through Stud. Ass., Cafe, Library, 67-347H, or any other means, legal or illegal.

BRIAN DAWKINS,
Sports Editor.

MUSIC

Many new and outstanding foreign artists will be appearing in Wellington this season, and it is hoped that our policy of interviewing these persons, as has been done in previous years, will be kept up. Victoria University is fortunate also in being situated in a position which allows ready access to overseas performers: many of whom have played, in previous years, at the University itself.

approachable.

However, to meet people, what better way is there than to join a club, cultural or sporting, and starting from a basis of a common interest, strike up what may prove to be life-long bonds of friendship with lawyers, politicians, scientists and so on.

Let's face it: Friends are useful, and friends of the very highest grade can be made in a University club. So in you go, the field's wide open.

—B. DAWKINS.

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